

A True and perfect Relation,
of the wicked and Bloody

P L O T.

Will. That was Conspired *Rain.*
against His Majesty,

And the Alteration of the Protestant Religion,
with the Names of those persons that has
suffer'd already about the Plot.

Also the Murder of that never to be forgotten
Marter Sr. *Edmund Bury Godfrey*, one of His
Majesties Justices of the Peace.

With an Exact Account in what manner he
was Kil'd, and how he was found in a Field
within three Miles of London.

As also Mr. *Bedlow's* Confession.

Together with the most Noble Manner of his
being Buried, and the Text of the Sermon there
Preached before many Thousands of persons
of Quality that attended the Corps
in Honour to his Memory.

And the Names of those Persons that was Hang'd
for Committing His Murder.

London, Printed for *Lawrance White* in *White-crofs*
Street, 1679. *With Allowance.*

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of the wicked and Bloody

T O L P

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Printed

And the Allegation of the Protestant Religion
with the Names of those persons that have
suffered already about the Year

Also the Murder of that never to be forgotten
Minister of the Gospel, one of His
Majesties Justices of the Peace

With an Extra Account in what manner he
was killed, and how he was found in a Field
under three Miles from London

As also Mr. Bowers Confeſſion
Together with the most Noble Manners of his
Life, and the List of the Gentlemen that

attended before the Court of Justice
of England that attended the Corpse
in Honour to his Memory

And the Names of those Persons that were Hanged
for Committing the Murder

Printed for Andrew Wile in White-church
Street, 1683.



A true Narrative concerning the
Plot of the Papists, and the
Murther and Burial of

Sir. EDMUND BURT GODFREY. &c.

THe day before *Michaelmas* day Last, there was some Discovery made of a horrid Plot, laid by Jesuits, and Papists, against the life of our Sovereign Lord the King, whom the Lord Keep and preserve, and Cloath all his Enemyes with shame and Confusion; as also they had Conspired to overthrow the Protestant Religion, alter the Government, and upon which, by good Evidence, these persons have suffered the Law, *William Stayley* Goldsmith, for speaking base Treasonable words and Threatening the Life of the King, in a *French*, Tongue, but he was drawn hang'd and quarter'd in *English*; The next was *Edward Coleman*; and after him *William Ireland*, and *John Grove*, all grand Trayters to their King and Country, and as we have begun with these, I hope the Lord in his due time, will bring the rest to Condigne Punishment, which shall be my Prayers.

And so I shall proceed to give you an account of the Murther of *Sir. Edmund Bury Godfrey*, who may be called the first Martyr in this Cause. For this worthy Gentleman, being one of His Majesties Justices of the peace, was concerned in taking the Examinations upon the first discovery of this treasonable design, and (as became him) was very diligent therein, whereby 'tis verily believ'd, some Papists conceived such a malice against him as occasioned his lamentable Murther; for going forth on *Saturday the 12th of October*, from his House in *Greens Lane* near *Charing Cross*, he neither came home to dinner, nor return'd at night, which much amazed his Servants; but from that time till the *Thursday* following, no certain tydings could be heard of him, although all earnest and diligent Inquiries and Searches were made for him; but on *Thursday the 17th. of October*, his body was found in a field out of any Road or path near a place called *Framrose Hill*, about three miles from *London*. The manner how he came to be found, is Related thus, Two persons going to an Alehouse, called the *White house*, two or three fields off, on some occasion to go the nearest way, cross over this field, and near the Hedge, saw as they thought, a Sword and Belt and a stick, and a pair of Gloves, but supposing them to belong to some person that was gone into the ditch to ease himself, did not meddle with them, but told the man of the Alehouse of it, who as they return'd would go with them to see the things, because (as they said) there had been several Soldiers out that way of late a Hedge-Hog Hunting, and

and possibly some of them might have carelessly left them behind them; coming to the place, they found a Belt and Scabbard, but without a Sword, and the Gloves and stick lying as aforesaid, one of them going to take them up, perceived something like a man in the ditch, and going nearer, a body lying on it's belly in the ditch with a Sword, run clear through him, and remaining therein. Hereupon they immediately ran and called an Officer, who with several Neighbours came to the place, the sword was run in just under the left pap, and stuck forth at the right side of his Back, about seven or eight inches. The Officer knowing it to be the body of Sir. *Edmund Bury Godfrey*, and having removed it out of the ditch, found in his pockets seven Ginnies, four broad pieces, and two small pieces of Gold, four pound and half a Crown in silver, three Gold Rings about him, 'tis believ'd the villains had a design to Murther his Reputation as well as his person, and left him in this manner with his money, to make it be thought that he Murthered himself; But 'tis well known he was a more judicious and Christian person, and had a plentiful Estate, and no colour for such a scandal, and that which makes it plain to be an inhumane Murther in them, are these circumstances.

First, there was nothing missing about him but his band, and his pocket book, wherein he used to carry the Examinations of such as came before him which probably these Murderers had occasion for that it might be concealed.

Secondly, there was no sign of blood in the ditch, nor thereabouts to be seen.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, therewas a Seame or Circle about his Neck, and the blood settled in the upper part, whereby it appears that he was first strangled before he was run through; and as for his large lac'd band, which he went from Home with, on, and now was missing, ti's like, being a long neckt man, and using to wear a high Collar, when they came to strangle him, he might struggle, and they could not do it without tearing it to pieces, and so durst not bring any of it with the body, least it should discover the violence they had used to him.

And lastly, the soles of his shoes were as clean as if he had been but just then brought off a bed, or out of a Chamber, and that he was kil'd elsewhere, and brought thither a little before he was found is evident, because on the *Tuesday* before, which was four dayes after he was first missing, the owner of this field having lost a Calf, searching diligently along this ditch, and two other men with him, and then there was niether body in the ditch, nor, Belt, Gloves, or Stick on the bank, upon all these circumstances, and many others, the Coroners Jury gave in their Verdict, *That he was wilfully Murdered.*

In pursuance of which, the King's Majesty out of his zeal to Justice, and detestation of such horrid villany, was pleased to set forth first a proclamation, and then A Declaration, whereby he graciously promised on his Royal Word, that whoever will discover the Murderers shall have five Hundred pounds, and if any of them will discover the rest,

rest, he shall be sure of pardon, and the Five Hundred pound too ; upon which, one Mr. Bedlow came in from *Bristol*, and 'tis hoped it may come out shortly, to the glory of God, and shame and punishment of those wicked persons concerned in it.

The Corps being Imbalm'd, was kept till *Thursday* the last day of *October*, and then was carry'd in most Noble Manner from the Great Hall of the Corporation of old *Bridwel* (whereof he was one of the Governours) unto his late Parish Church, being *St. Martins* in the Fields ; never was seen a more solemn, or decent Funeral, Eight Knights, and all Justices of the peace, held up the Pall, all the Aldermen in the City attended the Corps, and above an hundred Ministers that came of their own accord, without any invitation, but that of respect to his memory ; and of persons of Quality and other company, the croud was so great, that the Train reach'd at once from *Bridwel* beyond the *New Exchange* in the *Strand*, and the Church so crowded, that persons of Quality had offer'd great summs of money to get a place in any seat where they might hear.

The Reverend Dean of *Banger*, in *Wales*, Minister of that Parish, Preach'd a most Excellent Sermon from that suitable Text, *2 Samuel. Chap. 3. ver. 34. As a man falleth before wicked men, so falleth thou, and all the people wept over him*, which being finish'd, he was decently interr'd with great Lamentation, especially of the Poor, whom he had alwayes made it His business to imploy and Relieve, and had given and lent several Hundred pounds to that Parish on that account.

Long

Long had this wicked Murder lain Conceald, but at last one Mr. *Bedlow* came in upon his own Accord from *Bristol*; and declared amongst other things, where Sr. *Edmund Bury Godfrey* was Murdered in the *Strand*, and that he, though not concerned Actually in his Killing, was shew'd him dead; this Gentleman, being kept with a garde for Securing his Person, it was observed, that a Certain man, was very often Crowding towards him when he was going to the Councel or Parliament House, to be Examined, whereupon the said Person was Apprehended, and Mr. *B.* then knew him, to be one Concerned in the Murder (he was by Name Mr. *Prance*) and by Trade a working *Goldsmith* a Papist, and maker of their Idolatrous Images, and Confesses he intended to have Killed Mr. *B.* and as to the Murder of Sr. *Edmund Bury Godfrey*, saith, that he and five more, that is to say, two *Irish* Priests that are fled, and three more, *Green*, *Bury*, and *Hill*, did it; that they perswaded Sr. *Edmund Bury Godfrey* into an Eminent House in the *Strand*, pretending there was a Quarrel, and he being a Justice, might Appease them; there they all fell upon him, and one Twisting a Handkercher about his Neck, strangled him, and kept him private four days, then Carried him out in a *Sedan*, in the night, to the end of the Town, thence on Horse-Back, to a piece of Ground near *Prim-Rose Hill*, there Run him through the Body, and left him in a Close Call'd *Green Bury Hill* in the lease of that man that farms it, being the three Names of those men that was Hang'd for this Murder. This is the most true, and Latest Account of this Murther.

E. I. N. I. S.

